

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Paul Birkmeyer et al.	Group Art Unit:	3733
Application No.:	10/708,721	Examiner:	James L. Swiger III
Filed:	March 19, 2004		
Entitled:	SPINAL FIXATION ELEMENTS AND METHODS		
Docket No.:	101896-240 (DEP5278)		

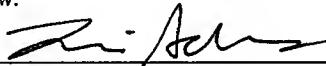
Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed via EFS-Web to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Nov. 29, 2007

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

By:



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Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the final Office Action dated October 22, 2007.

*Amendments to the Claims* begin on page 2 of this paper.

*Remarks* begin on page 5 of this paper.